

UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2008

ITEM #1

ORDERED THAT the Utilities Committee meet with Western Mass Electric Company to discuss the Greater Springfield Reliability Project, an upgrade to increase electric reliability throughout Western Massachusetts.

ITEM #2

Minutes



CHICOPEE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
UTILITIES COMMITTEE

ACCEPTED 1/13/09

MEMBERS

Fred Krampits, Chairman
George McLellan, Vice-Chairman
George Moreau
Jean Croteau, Jr.
Ronald Belair

MINUTES
November 13, 2008

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers, Fourth Floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Members Present Krampits, McLellan, Belair

Members Absent Moreau, Croteau

Also Present Alderman Zygarowski (At-Large), Alderman Brunetti (Ward 1), Jeff Cady (General Manager CEL), H. Edgar Alejandro (Senior Analyst of Western Mass. Electric), Jeffery M. Towle (Project Manager –Transmission of Northeast Utilities System), Jerry Phan (Project Manager of Burns & McDonnell)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

ITEM #1

ORDERED THAT the Utilities Committee meet with Western Mass Electric Company to discuss the Greater Springfield Reliability Project, an upgrade to increase electric reliability throughout Western Massachusetts

Attached please find NEW ENGLAND EAST-WEST SOLUTION, Greater Springfield Reliability Project package presentation presented by Western Massachusetts Electric.

Vieau asked if there will be new mono-poles whether or not there is an upgrade to a 345

Jerry Fan answered yes there will be

Belair asked what the height of the old to new poles will be

Jerry Fan answered the old poles are about 90-95 ft where as the new poles will be stands approximately 110ft tall.

Vieau asked if the old poles will be 100% completely removed

Jerry Fan stated yes, the new poles will have to be built next to the old ones because the City can not go without but the old ones will definitely be fully removed.

Zygarowski asked if the project will be finished by 2013

Jeff Towle stated yes, the existing 115's are overloaded and need a 345 to upgrade. Already have one in Ludlow.

Zygarowski asked what the total cost will be

Jeff Towle answered 714 million for all of Greater Springfield

Zygarowski asked if the city will then re-coop any of the spent money and will it affect Chicopee Electric Light

Jeff Cady answered that the transmission rates will increase up to 2-3 times

Edgar Alejandro stated it will be taxed so it will be a plus to the City but yes, there will be transmission increases but people in Maine are also paying too. For example we pay for the big dig.

Vieau stated he is in favor for replacing the current 115's with 345's. His only concern is if the 345 kilovolt lines may or may not have an impact on the residents

Krampits stated that there will be a meeting tomorrow night with other departments to discuss areas of interest

Vieau asked if there is any benefit comparison then with the South route

Jeff Towle stated revenue from the tax base if it were to go directly through Chicopee

Jeff Cady stated there will be an addition to pole structures. For example 1 to 2 poles, there will be a significant amount of infrastructure. We will now see the poles over the trees whereas before that didn't happen

Zygarowski asked about how many poles will be put in approximately and how many miles

Jerry Fan answered it will go approximately 8 miles with poles about every 5 feet.

Motion made by Alderman Krampits to open Public Input.

Darrell M. Drewniak of 979 Granby Road stated he lives behind Interstate 90 and asked if the towers there will be replaced and will the old ones be fully removed.

Jeff Towle answered yes

Darrell Drewniak asked if they will be brought down and put in the same place

Jeff Towle stated they must keep them up then bring them down after the new ones are put up.

Darrell Drewniak asked if there will be a surveyor looking at the property first so he can keep an eye out so he can speak with them

Jeff Towle stated yes there will definitely be a surveyor

Darrell Dreniak ended with saying he hopes the towers are more towards the highway rather than his backyard.

Motion made by Alderman Krampits to close Public Input.

Motion made to place report on file.

Motion Passed. Committee Vote: 3-0 favorable

ITEM #2

Minutes- December 17, 2007

Motion made by Alderman Belair to accept.

Motion Passed. Committee Vote: 3-0 Favorable

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.